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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Jena

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 7 January 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED
Information

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1. On 6 December 1953, the barracks installation in Zwaetzen near Jena was occupied by about 1,200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and including about 800 troops with artillery insignia and 400 troops with tank insignia. Troops observed engaged exclusively in fatigue duty, polishing work and interior duty.

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2. On 6 December, the barracks installation in Loebstedt was occupied to capacity by about 1,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including about 1,000 troops with tank insignia and 500 troops with artillery insignia, exclusively fatigue and interior duty. Fifty to 60 troops were repeatedly seen engaged in physical training.

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3. On 6 December, the Forst Kaserne was occupied by 400 to 500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and tank insignia. On 2 December, 6 50 to 80-mm guns were hauled into prepared emplacements along the eastern fence of the installation, on the other side of the street and at a distance of about 30 to 40 meters and subsequently, were trained at tank-shaped targets. Trucks were seen in two open sheds.

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4. At about 7 p.m. on 5 December, about 120 to 150 troops with equipment entered the Polizei Kaserne, coming from the Westbahnhof.

5. [redacted] a depot for ration supplies and clothing at the Roedigen airfield [redacted]

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6. [redacted] German families had to vacate town-owned apartments in the Zwaetzen-Loebstedt area for Soviet families who were expected to arrive there. It was rumored that a total of 400 apartments had to be vacated. The 60 to 80 apartments in the SA settlement, also referred to as Fliegersiedlung, had already been vacated.

7. On 3 December, the barracks installation in Loebstedt was occupied by about 1,200 to 1,500 troops, including about 70 percent wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank and artillery insignia, 25 percent wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, and the others wearing black-bordered black and blue-bordered black epaulets with signal and engineer insignia. On 26 November, about 500 troops had fallen in for a roll call and about 50 troops were seen drilling. On 3 December, about 180 troops wearing red-bordered black and black-bordered crimson epaulets and equipped with 18 x 82-mm mortars left the installation toward Jena-Roedigen. A short time later, they were followed by about 240 troops with carbines and practice targets. At about 7 p.m., about 150 troops carrying field telephones and cable reels left the installation.

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Comment. [redacted] the barracks installations are occupied as previously by units of the 40th Gds Mecz Div. Heavy weapons observed vaguely indicate the 65th Tank Inf Bn (US) in the Forst Kaserne and the 66th Gds Mecz Regt in the barracks installation in Loebstedt. The 88th Gds Engr Bn is carried in the Forst Kaserne and the unidentified signal battalion in the Polizei Kaserne.

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